

CLAIMS

I claim:

1 1. A molding machine, comprising:
2 two mold carriers defining a mold space therebetween, wherein one of said two
3 mold carriers is movable relative to the other of said two mold carriers;
4 a drive for moving said one of said two mold carriers; and
5 a power unit for generating a predetermined closing force between said two mold
6 carriers when said two mold carriers are moved together, wherein the separate power unit
7 comprises a pressure cushion filled with a highly viscous composition that has a viscosity greater
8 than that of hydraulic oil.

1 2. The molding machine of claim 1, wherein said drive comprises an
2 electromechanical drive.

1 3. The molding machine of claim 2, wherein said drive comprises a ball-
2 rolling spindle drive.

1 4. The molding machine of claim 2, wherein said drive comprises a hollow-
2 shafted motor, a spindle and a spindle nut and wherein said hollow-shafted motor is operatively
3 connected for effecting linear movement of said spindle.

1 5. The molding machine of claim 1, further comprising a pressure cylinder,
2 wherein said pressure cylinder and said drive are supported on the same part of said molding
3 machine, and wherein said pressure cushion is disposed in said pressure cylinder.

1 6. The molding machine of claim 5, further comprising an auxiliary piston
2 arranged for generating the pressure of said pressure cushion, wherein a piston surface of said
3 auxiliary piston is smaller than a piston surface of said pressure cylinder.

1 7. The molding machine of claim 6, further comprising an electromechanical
2 linear drive operatively arranged for moving said auxiliary piston.

1 8. The molding machine of claim 1, wherein said highly viscous composition
2 comprises grease.

1 9. The molding machine of claim 1, wherein said molding machine
2 comprises an injection molding machine and said mold carriers comprise mold mounting plates.

1 10. The molding machine of claim 9, wherein said injection molding machine
2 comprises a tiebarless injection molding machine and further comprises a C-shaped shackle and
3 a third plate, wherein said third plate and said other of said two molded carriers are retained at
4 said C-shaped shackle and wherein said drive for said one of said two mold carriers is supported
5 on one of said third plate said other of said two mold carriers.